

1.-36. (CANCELED)

37. (CURRENTLY AMENDED [37 + 38 + 39 + 40 + 43 + 67 + 69]) A lower leg protective apparel for providing protection from one of chemical and biological noxiants, the lower leg protective apparel having a plurality of plies and comprising:

an ~~outside leg part~~ outersock (1) and, ~~disposed in the interior of the outside leg part (1),~~

a laminate (2), ~~disposed on an inner side of the outersock (1),~~ which comprises a flexible, windproof, breathable and water-rejecting membrane (7) which forms the outer surface of the laminate (2) and which forms at least a barrier to biological noxiants and at least a partial barrier to liquid chemical noxiants,

a carbon layer (8) which is disposed underneath the membrane (7) and which comprises carbon in ~~one of a~~ fibrous or particulate form, and

an inner textile ply (9), and

an innersock (3) disposed as a second textile ply on an inner side of the laminate (2),

~~which is characterized in that the outside leg part~~ wherein at least one of the outersock (1) and the innersock (3) is fabricated from a plurality of cuts (4, 5, 6), the seams between the cuts (4, 5, 6) being sealed [[off]] by a waterproof material a seam-sealing tape comprising a waterproof material, and

the outersock (1), the laminate (2) and the innersock (3) are bonded to one another as a single unit.

38-40. (CANCELED)

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim [[40]] 37, wherein the plurality of plies (1, 2, 3) are sewn together.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 41, wherein the plurality of plies (1, 2, 3) are sewn together at their upper ends and in a foot tip region.

43-44. (CANCELED)

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the membrane (7) is microporous.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 45, wherein the membrane (7) comprises polytetrafluoroethylene.

47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 46, wherein the pores~~ A lower leg protective apparel for providing protection from at least one of chemical and biological noxiants, the lower leg protective apparel having a plurality of plies and comprising:

an outersock (1), and

a laminate (2), disposed on an inner side of the outersock (1), comprising:

a flexible, windproof and water-rejecting membrane (7), comprising a polytetrafluoroethylene membrane, which forms the outer surface of the laminate (2) and pores of the membrane (7) have a size such that the pores are pervious to water vapor but the pores are resistant to permeation of biological and chemical noxiants through the pores,

a carbon layer (8) which is disposed underneath the membrane (7) and which comprises carbon in a fibrous form, and

an inner textile ply (9),

wherein at least the outersock (1) is fabricated from a plurality of cuts (4, 5, 6), and the seams between the cuts (4, 5, 6) are sealed by a waterproof material.

48. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the carbon layer (8)~~ A lower leg protective apparel for providing protection from one of chemical and biological noxiants, the lower leg protective apparel having a plurality of plies and comprising:

an outersock (1),

a laminate (2), disposed on an inner side of the outersock (1), comprising

a flexible, windproof and water-rejecting membrane (7) with the membrane (7) being one of a polyester, a polyether and a mixture of a polyester and a polyether and which forms the outer surface of the laminate (2) and which forms at least a barrier to biological noxiants and at least a partial barrier to liquid chemical noxiants,

a carbon layer (8) disposed underneath the membrane (7) and which comprises a fabric of one of a woven carbon fiber material and a loop-drawingly knit carbon fiber material, and

an inner textile ply (9).

wherein at least one of the outersock (1) and the innersock (3) is fabricated from a plurality of cuts (4, 5, 6), and the seams between the cuts (4, 5, 6) are sealed by a waterproof material.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 48, wherein an active surface area of a carbon layer (8) is in a range from 1000 to 1200 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein a thickness of carbon layer (8) is in a range from 0.2 to 1.0 mm.

51-52. (CANCELED)

53. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the membrane (7) is based on cellophane.

54. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the membrane (7) comprises one of polyvinyl alcohols, polyacrylamides or polyurethane.

55. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the carbon layer (8) is provided with active spherules of carbon.

56. (CANCELED)

57. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 56, wherein the carbon layer (8) comprises~~ A lower leg protective apparel for providing protection from one of chemical and biological noxiants, the lower leg protective apparel having a plurality of plies and comprising:

an outersock (1),

a laminate (2), disposed on an inner side of the outersock (1), comprising:

a flexible, windproof and water-rejecting membrane (7) which forms the outer surface of the laminate (2) and which forms at least a barrier to biological noxiants,

a carbon layer (8) which is disposed underneath the membrane (7) and comprises a fabric of loop-drawingly knit activated carbon fibers.

58. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the ~~outside leg part~~ outersock (1) comprises one of wool, cotton, silk, polyester, polypropylene, polyamide, polyacrylic and mixtures thereof.

59. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the textile ply (9) in the laminate (2) is one of a woven and a loop-formingly knit fabric.

60. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim ~~[[39]]~~ 37, wherein the ~~inside-leg-part~~ innersock (3) is hydrophilic. ◆◆

61. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim ~~[[39]]~~ 37, wherein the ~~inside-leg-part~~ innersock (3) is made of manufactured fibers. ◆◆

62. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 61, wherein the ~~inside-leg-part~~ innersock (3) comprises one of polypropylene, polyamide, polyester and mixtures thereof. ◆◆

63. (CANCELED)

64. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim ~~[[39]]~~ 37, wherein the ~~inside-leg-part~~ innersock (3) is stitched with a fleecy spun yarn to at least one of the other plies (1, 2). ◆◆

65-70. (CANCELED)

71. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The lower leg protective apparel according to claim 37, wherein the textile ply (9) is hydrophilic.